## **Selected BLS Economic Indicators**

# **Altoona**



#### **Selected Indicators**

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment**, **price**, **and earnings data** for Pennsylvania, Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), and the United States. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the retail level. The **Producer Price Index (PPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the wholesale level and is widely used by business firms as an escalator in long-term contracts. The **Employment Cost Index (ECI)** measures price changes, or inflation, of labor costs which includes wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits. The earnings data are from the **Occupational Employment Statistics (OES).** 

Consumer Price Index	April	April	Percent
(1982-84) = 100	2006	2007	change
All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)			
U.S. City Average	201.5	206.686	2.6
Northeast	214.7	219.501	2.2
Northeast (size class B/C)*	127.3	129.563	1.8
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)			
U.S. City Average	197.2	202.130	2.5
Northeast	211.0	215.802	2.3
Northeast (size class B/C)*	127.6	129.856	1.8
Producer Price Index, U.S.	April	April	Percent
(1982 = 100)	2006	2007	change
Finished goods	160.7	165.8	3.2
All commodities	164.3	171.2	4.2
Industrial commodities	168.8	173.7	2.9

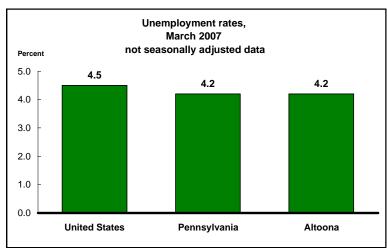
<sup>\*</sup>Northeastern cities with populations from 50,000 to 1,500,000 (December 1996=100) Most recent PPI numbers are preliminary.

### Unemployment levels, age 16 years and over

(not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	March 2006	March 2007	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,255.0	6,913.0	-342.0	-4.7
Pennsylvania	317.1	264.1	-53.0	-16.7
Altoona	3.4	2.7	-0.7	-20.3

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



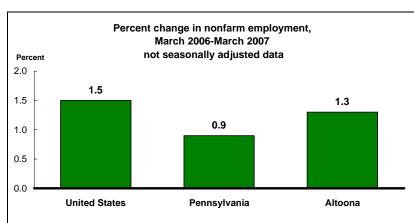
Employment Cost Index	1st Qtr.	1st Qtr.	Percent
(December 2005) = 100	2006	2007	change
Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers			
United States	100.8	104.0	3.2
Northeast	100.9	104.0	3.1
Middle Atlantic	100.9	104.2	3.3
Occupational Wages	Mean Hourly Earnings		
Selected Occupations		May 2005	
Altoona			
All Occupations	\$14.28		
Education, training, and library	17.53		
Office and administrative support	12.09		
Construction and extraction	14.63		
Sales and related	12.01		
Healthcare practitioner and technical	23.37		
Food preparation and serving related	7.42		
Production	13.36		
Installation, maintenance, and repair	14.56		
Transportation and material moving	12.76		

#### Nonfarm payroll employment

(not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

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Area	March 2006	March 2007	Net change	Percent change
United States	134,868.0	136,835.0	1,967.0	1.5
Pennsylvania	5,697.8	5,751.3	53.5	0.9
Altoona	61.0	61.8	0.8	1.3

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



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The Altoona, Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Blair

County in Pennsylvania.